body. There would be no personal friendships or partialities to gratify in the choice of subordinate officers, which have always been the cause of inducing a trading in votes. The great object would be to carry out party views and establish party principles; and there would be no trading of votes under such circumstances.

The object was that the Governor's election should be separated from the other State elections. The Governor was a high and important officer in the State, and his election should take place at such time, and under such circumstances as would remove all temptation to a trading of votes. It ought to take place too when the greatest number of votes could be obtained, and it was shown, by all past experience, that at what is called the Presidential election the greatest number of votes is always given. Was it not desirable to all who professed Democratic or republican principles, that the voice of the people should be fully and fairly expressed, that the election of Governor should take place on the day when the largest number of votes would be cast? This was his object, and no other. As to which party would be successful, it did not enter into his calculation for a moment. He therefore would separate the election of Governor from the rest of their State elections, and then the practice of trading votes would be wholly excluded from the election of President and Governor. He would therefore have the election of President and Governor to take place on the same day, from which he thought no possible injury could result, and to which he could see no possible objection.

It would also accomplish another important object. By having but one instead of two warmly contested, important elections, it would prevent our becoming familiarized to vice by the frequency of scenes of bribery and corruption. In his opinion, any man who would trade his vote, ought not to enjoy the right of suffrage. It was a departure from the principle upon which free suffrage was founded, and no man could practice it without violating that principle and impairing the value of the elective franchise as possessed by his fellow citizens.

The gentleman from Queen Anne's thought that to vote for connecting the election of President and Governor would be to vote for increasing bribery and corruption which would take place at elections. He (Mr. D.) did not think this would be so, but that it would rather tend to prevent those demoralizing evils.

In conclusion, he repeated, that if the Governor and President should be elected at the same time, in his opinion, the voice of the people would be fully and fairly expressed, and that there would be no trading, no bartering of votes, no undue influences indirectly operating, but the question would be settled upon those questions which always influence party elections. He would therefore vote for the combination of these two elections and their occurrence at the same time.

After a few remarks by Mr. BRENT,

Mr. DORSEY explained that his object was, and had been from the time he took a seat in this

Convention, to put an end to those corrupting pecuniary influences which of late had reflected disgrace upon our public elections in many parts of the State. Instead of such corruptions being increased, they would be diminished by fixing the election of electors of President and Vice President of the United States and of Governor of our State on the same day: instead of two days of bribery and corruption, we should have but one. As to the gentleman's wish that this corruption should be put an end to, and that the Governor should be elected without traversing the country, his wish and his votes are in direct discordance. If the elections were united, there would be much less occasion for the Governor personally to address the people. If the "wish" expressed by the gentleman were strong enough to influence his acts, he would have voted for the proposition submitted by him who addresses you, Mr. President, for the election of the Governor by an electoral college. And the sincerity of his desire to rescue our elections from those corrupt pecuniary influences now notoriously exerted upon them, would have been much more apparent if, instead of voting against, he had voted for those amendments which he (Mr. D.) had offered, to prevent the raising of money either in this State or out of it, to be used for electioneering purposes.

Mr. BROWN said that the charge was that immense amounts of money were raised in Baltimore to bear upon the elections. It was to remedy this evil that the efforts of the gentleman were directed. Now, what did they propose to do? They proposed to lay Maryland at the feet of the District of Columbia. Where did they find all these officers with large emoluments? Where did they find a set of officeholders more interested in keeping their offices than in the District of Columbia? Did they invite these men to contribute from their large salaries to carry on the canvass in Maryland? If they wished this to be done, they could not adopt a better course than to put the Governor's election on the same day as the election for President. Then money would be poured in from Washington, from Boston, from New York, Philadelphia and Baltimore, where the large offices were held. Millions would be furnished from the city of Washington alone, to be thrown into Maryland. He had no doubt that if the election of the very next President turned upon Maryland, they would raise millions of dollars to effect the result. If money had been raised in Baltimore to carry these elections, he knew nothing of it. He never knew a dollar used in an election in his life. By connecting the presidential election and the Governor's election together, all this money would tend to bear upon the Governor's election as well as upon the President's election. Why connect these elections, then?

The gentleman from Dorchester (Mr. PHELPS) had objected to frequent elections, on the ground of expense. What would be the expense of holding elections every four years? There would be no other expense added to the regular expense of elections. In respect to economizing—